Let No Man Take Thy Crown

> **What kind of a man sends His only Son to die for another?**

Recently, I was awakened with this thought and it totally blew my mind. It seemed to me at first to be a most blasphemous thing to think, to question God about such a matter. What father in his right mind would do such a thing to his son, and his only one at that? But we must never be afraid to think anything, even something so potentially faith crushing as this. So many so called "Atheists" slander our God's goodness and mercy with such questions, yet I had to know. If our God is really the man He is made out to be there must be a suitable answer to this question. So I asked it.

The answer, as it always seems to be with spiritual matters was simple, yet profound. I always feel so dumb afterwards, thank God He is used to answering dumb questions. The answer is simply this: sometimes we have to look beyond our own selfish needs to fulfill a bigger purpose. When He sent His only Son to die on the cross He was thinking about you, and me. You are that important to God. How important is He to you?

> **Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.**
> **John 15:13 (KJV)**

Then God reminded me of what every father must go through when they send a son to war. Yes, Christ indeed fought a battle on the cross, and won with glorious victory. The very moment that He gasped "It is finished" with His dying breath He paid in full for the sins of all the world. All the world, imagine that? The Calvinist would have us believe preordination means that man has no free will to choose or reject Christ. If so, why would Christ die for the sins of "all the world"?

> **And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.**
> **Revelation 22:17 (KJV)**

No sir, no man at the judgment seat can accuse Christ of not dying for their particular sins. And what of the other half of the story? The fact is that Christ went to the cross for all the world of His own free will. He submitted His own will to that of His Father.

> **And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.**
> **Luke 9:23 (KJV)**

It is the same with us. Christ is constantly pulling us into a more mature love with Him. Contrary to what the harlot churches are teaching, we are not called to "live our best life now", but to present ourselves as a living sacrifice to God just as Christ did (**Romans 12:1 KJV**). We must submit our wills to that of our Heavenly Father.

> **Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?**
> **John 6:60-61 (KJV)**

Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:
Isaiah 30:10 (KJV)

How do you detect false doctrine? The fact of the matter is that a great deal of it can be discerned by even the unbeliever by simply applying the following rule of thumb: "If it tickles our ears, it isn't true". Christ had no problem offending people with the truth, do you?

What is our purpose in life? This life is a test, our eternities will be determined by our actions and intentions of our hearts during the short time we are on this earth. Once we understand this we need to use it as a gauge for every decision we make. We are servants doing our Master's bidding. We have obligations to family, and work but we must never allow them to interfere with our eternity.

And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.
Luke 21:35-36 (KJV)

Nobody ever said in their heart “I will be careless and go to Hell”. Hell is full of people who thought they had more time to get right with God. Even the world tells us that the path to Hell is paved with good intentions. But the time to get right with him is right now, this very moment. Because every breath, every beat of our hearts is a gift from Him.

For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:
2 Peter 3:6-7 (KJV)

Many Christians think they will outsmart God on judgment day. Like the proverbial ostrich with its head in the sand when we warn them they ignore us, and reason to themselves that God will not hold them accountable. They foolishly think that like men, God does not know when they are being willingly ignorant. We must always be examining the intentions of our hearts, confess our sins often, and ask forgiveness for any transgressions we may have committed.

But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.
1 Corinthians 11:28 (KJV)

We are told to examine ourselves as often as we drink with our meal, that means daily to me. How do we know when we are in danger of losing our salvation? it isn't a matter of becoming 'unsaved' every time we sin until we confess it again. It is a gradual slide; it is when we sin and no longer care that it offends God that we are in danger.

But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.
Matthew 24:43 (KJV)

Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.
Revelation 3:11 (KJV)

What is the thief looking to steal anyway? And what on earth are we watching for if we are 'once saved, always saved'? That doctrine is a lie from Hell! It lulls Christians into a false sense of eternal security, to sleep on the job instead of vigilantly watching out for the thief as Christ commanded us.

Those who lightly regard their salvation are in great danger, because like a pickpocket Satan distracts Christians with the cares of this world. Before they know it their salvation is gone from their back pocket. Christ told us to

watch and pray, not to go out and party with the world. In the above verse Christ plainly tells us to watch out for the thief night and day. He also tells us to 'work out our salvation with fear and trembling' (**Philippians 2:12 KJV**).

If you are not doing these things don't be surprised if your crown is taken by the thief. And you might never even know it's gone until judgment day. So the next time someone tries to warn you, instead of bleating "Stop judging meee" and getting angry perhaps you had better take what they say to God on your knees. Why? Because it may be the last chance you'll have to save your crown of glory from being stolen.